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# The Classical Weekly

VOL. XIV

NEW YORK, MAY 9, 1921

No. 25

## A CORRECTION

By one of those errors which seem impossible till they are perpetrated, I failed to attach the proper signature to the article, A Classification of the Similes in the Argonautica of Apollonius Rhodius, THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 14.162-166. The article was contributed by Professor Eliza G. Wilkins, of the University of Colorado.

C. K.

## WORD-GROUPING IN VERGIL

Editors of Vergil have not given adequate attention to the matter of word-order in his poems; indeed, most of them seem to have disregarded the subject entirely. A striking exception is found in Professor Knapp's edition, in which pages 68-70 of the Introduction (§§ 204-212) are devoted to The Order of Words; again, in the Index, pages 564-566, will be found a long array of references to passages in the Notes in which comment is made on matters of word-order. The way of the poets has also been pointed out by Professors Clement L. Smith and Clifford H. Moore, in the Introductions in their editions of the Odes and the Epodes of Horace (pages lxi-lxix, 29-34 respectively). The former states explicitly (lxii) that "the poets have studiously wrought out artistic groupings and sequences which the reader must train himself to grasp and follow". An investigation shows that the groups indicated by these editors for Horace occur also in Vergil; further, it appears that still others occur, in the greater compass of the hexameter, that are not found so easily, if at all, in the shorter lyric lines.

Words that 'go together', or balance in symmetrical groups, are such combinations as adjective and noun, adverb and verb, subject and verb. Symmetry may be of two sorts: we find (1) absolute balance, such as ab c ba; (2) small groups of two or more words each, balancing group with group, but without reversed order of the component words, such as ab c ab. A preposition does not count as a separate word if it is followed immediately by its case; enclitics do not count.

I. *Groups of three words.* These are very common: 1.12 *Tyrti tenere coloni*; 1.27 *spretaeque iniuria formae*; 1.9-10 *tot volvere casus insignem pietate virum, tot adire labores*. It is safe to say that in such groups adjectives that are held off from their nouns are not thereby rendered emphatic, as would be the case in prose; the group admits a central, alien word, without thereby throwing emphasis on the first word.

II. *Groups of four words.* (a) Type ab ba: 1.11 *Tantaene animis caelestibus irae?*; 1.81 *cavum conversa cuspide monlem*; 1.29-30 *iaculatos aequore toto Troas*.

(b) Type ab ab: 1.4 *saevae memorem Iunonis ob iram*; 2.166 *caesis summae custodibus arcis*.

III. *Groups of five, six, or seven words.* Groups of five, six, or seven words occur, though on account of their length they are less easily recognized, unless they happen to coincide precisely with the compass of one hexameter.

(1) *Groups of five words:* (a) Type ab c ba: 2.149 *mihique haec edissere vera roganti*; 3.475 *coniugio Anchise Veneris dignate superbo*; 5.245 *victorem magna praeconis voce Cloanthum*; (b) Type ab c ab: 1.354 *ora modis attollens pallida miris*; 3.280 *Actiaque Iliacis celebramus litora ludis*.

(2) *Groups of six words:* 2.676 *aliquam expertus sumptis spem ponis in armis* (abc abc); 6.563 *nulli fas casto sceleratum insistere limen* (aba cbc); 3.277 *ancora de prora iacitur, stant litore puppes* (abc cba); 2.379 *improvisum aspris veluti qui sentibus anguem* (abc cba); 4.372 *Saturnius haec oculis pater aspicit aequis* (abc abc); 5.603 *Hac celebrata tenus sancto certamine patri* (aba cbc); 5.714 *pertaesum magni incepti rerumque tuarum est* (abb bba); 6.111 *eripui his umervis medioque ex hoste recepi* (abb bba).

(3) *Groups of seven words:* 5.212 *prona petit maria et pelago decurrit aperto* (aba c dbd); 6.161 *quem socium exanimem vates, quod corpus humandum* (aaa b aaa); 5.417 *si nostra dares haec Troius arma recusat* (abc b cba).

IV. Verses absolutely symmetrical occur fairly frequently; some of the groups just listed might equally well be listed as symmetrical: 1.471 *Tyrides multa vastabat caede cruentus*; 2.416 *adversi rupto ceu quondam turbine venti*; 3.152 *plena per insertas fundebat luna fenestras* (ab c ab); 4.92 *talibus adgreditur venerem saturnia dictis*; 5.297 *regius egregia priami de stirpe diores*; 6.657 *vescentis laetumque choro paeana canentis*; 2.516; 3.245; 3.346; 4.139; 5.245.

V. Very frequently exact symmetry is spoiled by some one word intruding near the front of the verse (in the examples, the intruding word is set in parenthesis): 1.340 (imperium) *Dido tyria regit urbe profecta*; 2.728 (nunc) *omnes terrent auras, sonus excitat omnis*; 4.49 *Punica* (se) *cuantis attollet gloria rebus* (ab c ab); 6.663 *inventas* (aut) *qui vitam excoluere per artis*.

VI. The first word and the last word in the verse often go together in thought and grammar, with no internal symmetry: 1.15 *quam luno fertur terris magis omnibus unam*; 1.41 *unius . . . Oilei*; 1.74 *omnis . . . annos*; 1.91 *praesentem . . . mortem*. This is true also of the Odes of Horace, though it is not so striking there, since most lyric